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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/072,635	02/05/2002	Densen Cao	5061.9 P	6321

7590 05/05/2004

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EXAMINER

LEWIS, RALPH A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3732

DATE MAILED: 05/05/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/072,635

Applicant(s)

CAO, DENSEN

Examiner

Ralph A. Lewis

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 January 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Rejections based on Prior Art

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mills (WO 99/16136) in view of Doiron et al (5,698,866).

Mills discloses a dental curing light (page 1, second paragraph) comprised of a hand held wand (Figure 5) having a light module 47, an elongated heat sink 45, 50, 51, having a distal end surface serving as a mounting platform on which primary heat sink 48 is mounted and light emitting semiconductors 43 mounted to the primary heat sink 48. In Mills the LEDs are mounted directly on a flat heat sink 48. Doiron et al, however, teach that an improvement over mounting diodes on a flat surface (Figures 9 and 10) is mounting them in a well (Figures 11 and 12) formed on the heat sink so that more light from the LEDs is reflected forward in the desired direction. To have mounted the Mills LEDs in wells as taught by Doiron et al so that more light is reflected forward in the desired direction would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art. In regard to the particular size ratios claimed between the length of the wand and the length of the secondary heat sink, one of ordinary skill in the art would have found the claimed values to all fall within a range one would expect in constructing Mills device.

Claims 10-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mills (WO 99/16136).

Mills discloses a dental curing light (page 1, second paragraph) comprised of a hand held wand (Figure 5) having a light module 47, an elongated heat sink 45, 50, 51, having a distal end surface serving as a mounting platform on which primary heat sink 48 is mounted and light emitting semiconductors 43 mounted to the primary heat sink 48. In regard to the plurality of epitaxial layers limitation, the limitation appears to be common and conventional in the construction of light emitting semiconductor chips. The use of conventional light emitting chips in the Mills device would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art. In regard to the particular size ratios claimed between the length of the wand and the length of the secondary heat sink, one of ordinary skill in the art would have found the claimed values to all fall within a range one would expect in constructing Mills device.

Response to Applicant's Remarks

In response to the rejections of record based on Mills (WO 99/16136) and Doiron et al (US 5,698,866) applicant filed a declaration asserting commercial success of the claimed invention and argues that it is sufficient in overcoming a prima facie obviousness rejection. Applicant's declaration asserts that the commercial success of the invention is at least in part due to an improved performance of the device over

competitors. The improved performance including a "complete cure" and "heat management."

The examiner has carefully considered applicant's declaration and is impressed by applicant's success, however, is not persuaded that a sufficient showing has been made to overcome the rejections based on 35 U.S.C. 103. Applicant indicates that "laboratory testing and reports from dentists indicate that the invented light dental curing light is more desirable than prior art dental curing lights for at least two important reasons," yet fails to provide for any evidence or statistics to back up this statement that these are the two reasons for the commercial success. The examiner is looking for a factual basis rather than a conclusive statement/opinion. Secondly, applicant's declaration of commercial success apparently is only in reference to prior art that applicant has found to be commercially available. Mills et al has been cited as a prior art teaching of the use of an elongated secondary heat sink that extends the length of the handle. It is unclear how this prior art elongated heat sink technology becomes patentable to applicant simply because Mills et al have yet to market their designed dental curing light.

Action Made Final

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

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TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Prior Art

Melikechi et al (6,511,317), Otsuka (6,638,063), Decaudin et al (6,692,250), Logan et al (6,692,251), Plank (6,695,614), and Fischer et al (6,702,576) are made of record.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to **Ralph Lewis** at telephone number **(703) 308-0770**. Fax (703) 872-9306. The examiner works a compressed work schedule and is unavailable every other Friday. The examiner's supervisor, Kevin Shaver, can be reached at (703) 308-2582.

R.Lewis
May 2, 2004


Ralph A. Lewis
Primary Examiner
AU3732